ABSTRACT

A signaling mediation agent (SMA), facilitating communications among communication nodes by ensuring that signaling messages transmitted by the SMA have been modified so that they conform to the protocol variants used by the destination communication node. In one embodiment, the SMA also facilitates communications by ensuring that communication nodes on a private network are authenticated and authorized to receive various communication services, even if the communication nodes on the various networks use different communication protocols or variants of the same protocol.